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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/691,855	10/23/2003	Bryan T. Starbuck	13768.469	6729

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EXAMINER
SYED, FARHAN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2165	

DATE MAILED: 09/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/691,855	STARBUCK ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Farhan M. Syed	2165	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>22 June 2006</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-13 and 25* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-13 and 25* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>23 October 2003</u> is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

        1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

        3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1-13 and 25 are pending.

Election/Restrictions

2.   Applicant's election without traverse of claims 1-13 and 25 in the reply filed on 22

June 2006 is acknowledged.

3.   The Examiner acknowledges the cancellation of claims in Groups II (claims 14-

24 and 26) by the Applicant in the reply filed 22 June 2006.

Drawings

4.   The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5)

because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the

description: Figure 1, item 154; Figure 3, items 333 and 334. Corrected drawing sheets

in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d), or amendment to the specification to add the

reference character(s) in the description in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(b) are

required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any

amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the

immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each

drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top

margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If

the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and

informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the

drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2..   Claims 1-13 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by

Shuman (U.S. Patent 6,424,995).

As per claims 1 and 25, Shuman teaches a computer system that is network

connectable along with one or more other computer systems to a network (i.e.

"Furthermore, those skilled in the art will recognize that the present invention may be implemented in a

stand-alone or in a distributed computing environment." "Examples of such distributed computing

environments include local area networks, enterprise-wide computer networks, and the global

Internet.")(Column 4, lines 20-23, lines 27-30), a method for registering a message application

to have primary control of a message folder space, the method comprising (i.e. *"Those*

skilled in the art will also appreciate that the controls displayed by a form also vary based on the context

in which the message is being displayed, i.e., whether the message is being composed by a user, or has

already been sent or received by a user. In the context of an e-mail message, a "compose" form will

include controls that allow the user to send the message when composition is complete. Similarly, a

"receive" form will include controls that allow a user to forward the message to others, or reply to the

sender. A "sent" form may indicate to the sender when the message was sent, and allow the user to send

it to others.")(Column 13, lines 41-52): an act of an operating system receiving a folder

registration request from a message application (i.e. *"The operation of these MAPI components*

is illustrated by describing the flow of an electronic message through these components. The user of a

client application 300 sends an electronic message to one or more recipients. A message store provider

330 initiates the sending process and formats the message with additional information needed for

transmission. The MAPI spooler 310 receives the electronic message, performs any required

preprocessing, and delivers it to the appropriate transport provider 340.")(Column 9, lines 44-49); an act

of the operating system determining that a folder silo has resources available to satisfy

the folder registration request (i.e. *"Message store providers 330 handle the storage and retrieval of*

electronic messages and other information for the users of a client application. As illustrated in FIG. 4, the

message information is organized using a hierarchical system known as a message store, which is

implemented in multiple levels, with containers called folders holding electronic messages of different

types. There is no limit to the number of levels in a message store, and folders can contain many sub-

folders.")(Column 9, lines 11-19); an act of the operating system allocating a folder space

within the folder silo to satisfy the folder registration request (i.e. *"Message store providers*

330 handle the storage and retrieval of electronic messages and other information for the users of a client

application. As illustrated in FIG. 4, the message information is organized using a hierarchical system

known as a message store, which is implemented in multiple levels, with containers called folders holding

electronic messages of different types. There is no limit to the number of levels in a message store, and

folders can contain many sub-folders.")(Column 9, lines 11-19); and an act of the operating system

maintaining an indication that the message application has primary control of the

allocated folder space such that other message applications can be made aware that

the message application has primary control of the allocated folder space (i.e. *"Message*

store providers 330 handle the storage and retrieval of electronic messages and other information for the users of a client application. As illustrated in FIG. 4, the message information is organized using a hierarchical system known as a message store, which is implemented in multiple levels, with containers called folders holding electronic messages of different types. There is no limit to the number of levels in a message store, and folders can contain many sub-folders.")(Column 9, lines 11-19).

As per claim 2, Shuman teaches a method, wherein the act of an operating system receiving a folder registration request from a message application comprises an act of receiving a folder request from an electronic mail application (i.e. *"FIG. 3 illustrates the modular architecture defined by MAPI. The client applications 300 are application programs that take advantage of the MAPI subsystem 305.")(Column 8, lines 7-9; Figure 3).*

As per claim 3, Shuman teaches a method, wherein the act of an operating system receiving a folder registration request from a message application comprises an act of receiving a folder request for a folder space that is to store electronic messages having fields defined in accordance with a message application extension schema (i.e. *"In FIG. 4, the first folder 400 contains note messages and uses the MAPI standard note form. The second folder 405 contains inventory request messages and uses a custom inventory form. The information on both forms represents the properties, or attributes, of the message. Messages are the units of data transferred from one user to another. Every message contains some text, which is formatted simply or more intricately depending on the form that is used, and envelope information that is used for transmission.")(Column 9, lines 64-67; Figure 4).*

As per claim 4, Shuman teaches a method, wherein the act of an operating

system receiving a folder registration request from a message application comprises an

act of receiving a folder request for a folder space that is to store electronic messages

having specified primary type (i.e. *"In FIG. 4, the first folder 400 contains note messages and uses*

the MAPI standard note form. The second folder 405 contains inventory request messages and uses a

custom inventory form. The information on both forms represents the properties, or attributes, of the

message. Messages are the units of data transferred from one user to another. Every message contains

some text, which is formatted simply or more intricately depending on the form that is used, and envelope

information that is used for transmission.")(Column 9, lines 64-67; Figure 4).

As per claim 5, Shuman teaches a method, wherein the act of the operating

system determining that a folder silo has resources available to satisfy the folder

registration request comprises an act of determining that a requested folder space is not

currently allocated (Figures 3, 4, 5).

As per claim 6, Shuman teaches a method, wherein the operating system

allocating a folder space within the folder silo comprises an act creating the folder space

(Figure 2, 3).

As per claim 7, Shuman teaches a method, wherein the operating system

allocating a folder space comprises an act of allocating a folder space that is to store

electronic mail messages (Figure 3).

As per claim 8, Shuman teaches a method, wherein the operating system allocating a folder space comprises an act of allocating a folder space that is to store electronic messages having fields defined in accordance with a message application extension schema (Figure 3, 4).

As per claim 9, Shuman teaches a method, wherein the operating system allocating a folder space comprises an act of allocating a folder space that is to store electronic messages of a specified primary type (Figure 3, 4).

As per claim 10, Shuman teaches a method, wherein an act of the operating system maintaining an indication that the message application has primary control of the allocated folder space comprises an act of updating an external list that tracks which message folders are allocated to which message applications (Figure 3, 4).

As per claim 11, Shuman teaches a method, wherein the operating system maintaining an indication that the message application has primary control of the allocated folder space comprises an act of altering the arrangement of the folder silo such that subsequent analysis of the folder silo indicates that the folder space is allocated to the message application (Figure 3).

As per claim 12, Shuman teaches a method, further comprising: an act of the operating system preventing another message application from accessing the allocated folder space subsequent to the folder space being allocated (Figure 3).

As per claim 13, Shuman teaches a method, further comprising: an act of the operating system sending a signal to the message application, the signal indicating the folder registration request was satisfied (i.e. *"Message store providers 330 handle the storage and retrieval of electronic messages and other information for the users of a client application. As illustrated in FIG. 4, the message information is organized using a hierarchical system known as a message store, which is implemented in multiple levels, with containers called folders holding electronic messages of different types. There is no limit to the number of levels in a message store, and folders can contain many sub-folders."*)(Figure 3, 4, 5).

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Farhan M. Syed whose telephone number is 571-272-7191. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached on 571-272-4146. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

FMS

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